REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and remarks herein is respectfully requested.

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1 and 4 - 25 are presently pending, with claims 8 - 18 and 23 - 25 having been previously withdrawn.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1, 4 - 7, and 19 - 22 are currently allowed.

II. <u>Canceled Claims</u>

Applicants cancel claims 8 - 18 and 23 - 25 without prejudice or disclaimer, reserving all right to pursue canceled claims 8 - 18 and 23 - 25 in a subsequent or presently pending continuing or divisional application.

With the cancellation of claims 8 - 18 and 23 - 25, and allowance of remaining claims 1, 4 - 7 and 19 - 22, Applicants respectfully submit that the application presently stands in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved either through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Dated: October 29, 2007 Respectfully submitted,

Thomas J. Bean

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